

**REMARKS**

Examiner Schwartz is thanked for the courtesy extended during the Office Interview on December 31, 2007.

The Interview Summary is believed to accurately reflect what was discussed and agreed to.

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 2-19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and the rejection of Claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is hereby requested. As stated in the Office Interview, "Applicant's representative submitted a proposed amendment to independent Claim 20 and several of the dependent claims. The rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 First and Second Paragraphs have been overcome". Therefore, reconsideration of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 2, 3, 13, 18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Blossch et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,012,556), the rejection of Claims 4-12 and 14-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Blossch et al. in view of Gordon et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,086,884), and the rejection of Claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Blossch et al. in view of Akamatsu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,799,757) is hereby requested. As stated in the Interview Summary (see above) and as further stated in the Interview Summary, "It would appear that the amendment to independent Claim 20 also defines over the primary reference to Blossch et al". Therefore, independent Claim 20 is considered to be in condition for allowance, as do the dependent claims depending from Claim 20.

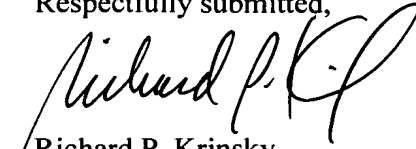
Dependent Claims 2, 4-17 and 19 have been amended to overcome the appropriate §112 first and second paragraph rejections. Claim 18 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Claims 2-17 and 19 depend from allowable independent claim 20 and are considered to be allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 20 and for their own limitations as well, and such is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, Claims 2-17, 19 and 20 and the application are in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Barnes & Thornburg LLP Deposit Account No. 02-1010 (566/42763).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard P. Krinsky". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "K" at the end.

Richard P. Krinsky

Reg. No. 47,720

(202) 289-1313

BARNES & THORNBURG LLP

Suite 900

750 17th Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20006-4607

115175DC